GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
AGRICULTURE
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2717
ANSWERED ON:11.12.2006
AREA UNDER WHEAT CULTIVATION
Scindia Shri Jyotiraditya Madhavrao

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) Whether the International Food Policy Research Institute has suggested a scheme to turn India into a wheat exporter by increasing productivity and acreage under wheat cultivation ;

(b) If so, the details thereof; and

(c) The strategy worked out to implement the same ?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE(SHRI KANTI LAL BHURIA)

(a)&(b) : International Food Policy Research Institute (IFPRI) has been working on a study `Revitalizing Policies for Food Security and Poverty Alleviation`. There are three inter-related components of this study

(i) diversification of agriculture with a view to augment farmers` income and bring about sustainable use of natural resources;

(ii) grain management to make the whole system more cost effective and better integrated to the world economy; and

(iii) rationalization of prices and input supplying agencies to make the system more efficient and cost effective.

(c) :The Government of India has drawn a special three years plan for increasing the production and productivity of wheat in 138 identified districts. Under the plan, provision has been made to provide assistance for seed distribution, demonstration, micro-nutrients, improved farm implements and subsidy for diesel. 48,000 quintal of quality seeds of improved variety of wheat has been allocated to different wheat producing States to conduct field demonstrations, out of which 43,750 quintal seed has been supplied to the targeted States.